

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/38469

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 IPC 7 C22C1/04 B22F3/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 C22C B22F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	SCHAFFER G B ET AL: "THE INFLUENCE OF THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE SINTERING OF ALUMINUM" METALLURGICAL AND MATERIALS TRANSACTIONS A: PHYSICAL METALLURGY & MATERIALS SCIENCE, THE MINERALS, METALS AND MATERIALS SOCIETY, US, vol. 33A, no. 10, October 2002 (2002-10), pages 3279-3284, XP009037316 ISSN: 1073-5623 the whole document ----- -/-	1

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 October 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

28/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Alvazzi Delfrate, M

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/38469

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	AMATO I ET AL: "SINTERING PROCEDURES FOR ALUMINIUM P/M PARTS AND METALLOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION DURING THE PROCESS" POWDER METALLURGY, METALS SOCIETY, LONDON, GB, vol. 19, no. 3, 1976, pages 171-176, XP009037274 ISSN: 0032-5899 figures 5,6; table II -----	1
X		21-29
A	US 5 460 775 A (HAYASHI TETSUYA ET AL) 24 October 1995 (1995-10-24) cited in the application -----	1

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

**PCT/US 03/38469**

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5460775	A	24-10-1995	JP 2509052 B2		19-06-1996
			JP 6057363 A		01-03-1994
			DE 69315492 D1		15-01-1998
			DE 69315492 T2		02-04-1998
			EP 0577436 A1		05-01-1994